



Meeting Notes

Golden Gardens Bathhouse Renovation: Project Advisory Team Meeting August 15, 2002, 6:30 to 8:00 PM, at Golden Gardens Bathhouse

PRESENT: PAT members Carolyn Wren Clark, Jeff Cleaveland, Fred Felleman, Allen Hughes, Lawrence (Larry) Jackson, Vivian McKay, Jeffrey Stolsig, and Margo Aspholm; Susan Boyle/BOLA, Rhoda Lawrence/BOLA, Matt Hamel/BOLA; Mark Johnson/Parks PM,

Introductions

Questions and Concerns

Fred Felleman advocated publicizing the PAT meetings. Mark Johnson explained the Public/Community Meeting schedule and sequence for the project and how the purpose of public meetings differed from the on-going involvement of PAT members with the progress of the project.

Jeff Cleaveland asked about the function of this PAT, given all of the work done 6-7 years ago to study converting the Bathhouse to a teen center: how does that work relate to this project? Mark explained that this project is funded by the 2000 Pro Parks Levy, and that the Levy language describes the project's purpose as renovating the Bathhouse for teen and other community activities. He also noted that the work done in 1995-96 will be utilized wherever it is applicable as the project proceeds.

The Design Team

BOLA Introduced the team: Rhoda Lawrence opened with an invitation to call BOLA with questions when they arise. Also in attendance were Lanie McMullen, Jennifer, and Nora of Kymera, Financial Feasibility Analysts. Susan talked about the history of Golden Gardens Park and the Bathhouse building. Fred Felleman noted that he has a packet of historic information that he will bring next time.

Existing Conditions: Areas of interest and concern

Issues relating to the building's condition: the design team will investigate these.

Park use / Social issues: Where, in this park and others, do people find a supportive place to be? PAT members can provide great input by bringing in examples of these places.

Vivian noted that the only toilet rooms in the park are the ones in the Bathhouse; there is a need for another set of bathrooms. Mark agreed to ask about how Parks determines the number of toilets in a park, and whether or not the park has an adequate number of toilets based on Parks' standard.

Fred and Margo Aspholm asked how the Bathhouse project relates to overall planning for Golden Gardens Park. Discussion ensued; Mark noted that Kathie Huus, NW Sector Parks and Recreation Manager would best be able to address this question at the next PAT meeting.

PAT Members' "Bottom Lines"

Each member told the group what their most important goal for the project was:

- Carolyn: An inclusive facility, welcomes all, including teens; an emphasis on the marine/dunes/wetland environments; support for people who work in the Park (volunteer's tools, etc); attention paid to plant species that might be displaced as site is developed.
- Vivian: Would like a larger building – but expanded use is most important: more than a teen center, focus on marine biology. Think about activities that work best in fall, winter and spring because summer is so busy; skeptical about the revenue-generating ideas (rental of the facility) that Parks has expressed.
- Larry Jackson: Safety is important: lighting, signage, ways to secure things. Want people to be able to safely enjoy the park. Also skeptical about the revenue-generating ideas because it may create a perception of the public being excluded from their park. Likes idea of most extensive food service.
- Margo: Wants the community to love the facility – this will create safety and use.
- Al: Marine biology center – could see the café idea disappearing and be fine with that. Wants people to be proud of the building.
- Fred Felleman: The building needs to be put to use; wants the community to embrace and use the building. Wants to see the building recognize its place on the beach. Environmental education for kids in the building: "I want to see the fish swim through the building".
- Jeff Cleaveland: Would like this to be a place open to all, but especially kids. Education (history, marine ecology). Building should "harvest the energy" of the beach and the sun – actually using solar energy.
- Jeff Stolsig: The building now doesn't have a structured space – there's a lack of things to do. Would like a mix of educational activities and music, etc. (fun stuff)
- Jason: Connecting teens to their dreams: Saturday night shows. The teens develop the show, produce it, run things. Also art space for visual arts-oriented activities. Firewood sales are supporting teen activities at the Bathhouse now.
- Lanie: Public gathering spaces are what Kymera does: program planning that matches the environment; reuse of old buildings; we're good at developing revenue to operate old buildings; good at developing flexibility for economic development.
- Susan and Rhoda: Make the building part of its environment.
- Susan: It's a complex project – that is a challenge that's appealing. The building as a place of generation: ideas, energy, activities.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 PM

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